

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Scott H. Hutchinson, et al.

**Received**  
**JUN 14 1999**  
**Group 2700**

Serial No.: 09/233,860

Filed: January 20, 1999

For: SOFTWARE-IMPLEMENTED METHOD  
FOR IDENTIFYING NODES ON A NET-  
WORK

Group Art Unit: 2756

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: BVEW:154/TOE

#4/Pre  
A  
6-29-99  
CB

Feb  
2-22

**(PRELIMINARY) AMENDMENT A**

Prior to receipt of the first Office action, and for purposes of obtaining expedited examination of the application pursuant to a petition for accelerated examination filed herewith, please amend the application as follows.

If any fee required in connection with the filing of this paper is not paid in full by check filed herewith, please charge the fee or deficiency to the deposit account of Arnold, White & Durkee, account no. 01-2508, order no. BVEW:154/TOE.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel dependents claim 4, 9, and 14; their limitations are being into their respective parent claims.

Please amend certain other claims, and add claims, as set out below.

These amendments are made without prejudice to possible re-presentation of one or more canceled or amended claims in their original form in a continuing application.

All claims are re-presented below for convenient reference, whether or not amended.

A